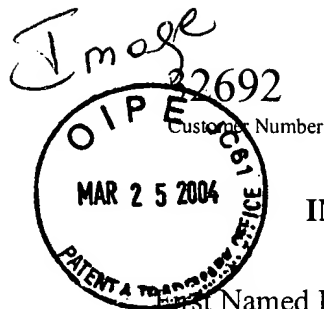


AF 3743

Patent
Case No.: 56732US002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: MARTIN, PHILIP G.
Application No.: 09/989965 Group Art Unit: 3743
Filed: November 21, 2001 Examiner: Joseph F. Weiss Jr.
Title: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT USES AN EXHALATION VALVE THAT HAS A
MULTI-LAYERED FLEXIBLE FLAP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 2213-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2213-1450 on:

March 22, 2004
Date

Susan M. Dacko
Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449 citing a reference submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of the cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that the reference has been considered.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

March 22, 2004
Date

By: Karl G. Hanson
Karl G. Hanson, Reg. No.: 32,900
Telephone No.: (651) 736-7776

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Filing Date

November 21, 2001

First Named Inventor

Martin, Philip G.

Art Unit

3743

Examiner Name

Joseph F. Weiss Jr.

Attorney Case Number

56732US002

Use as many sheets as necessary)

Page 1 of 1



U.S. Patent Documents

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date or Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)			
	A1	US-			
	A2	US-			
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			

Foreign Patent Documents

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
		Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (If known)				
	B1	TW	349412				X
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	B5						
	B6						
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OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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	C1	
	C2	
	C3	

*Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.